

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
EASTERN DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ) CASE NO. 5:13CR558  
vs. )  
PLAINTIFF, ) JUDGE SARA LIOI  
vs. )  
THOMAS JOSEPH BROWN, ) ORDER  
vs. )  
DEFENDANT. )

This matter is before the Court upon Magistrate Judge Kathleen B. Burke's Report and Recommendation that the Court ACCEPT Defendant Thomas Joseph Brown's ("Defendant") plea of guilty and enter a finding of guilty against Defendant. (Doc. No. 17.)

On December 19, 2013, the government filed an Indictment against Defendant. (Doc. No. 12.) On January 31, 2014, this Court issued an order assigning this case to Magistrate Judge Burke for the purpose of receiving Defendant's guilty plea. (Doc. No. 15.)

On February 3, 2014, a hearing was held in which Defendant entered a plea of guilty to Count 2 of the Indictment, charging him with Unlawful Possession of Cocaine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. Section 844(a). Magistrate Judge Burke received Defendant's guilty plea and issued a Report and Recommendation ("R&R") recommending that this Court accept the plea and enter a finding of guilty. (Doc. No. 17.)

Neither party objected to the Magistrate Judge's R&R in the fourteen days

after it was issued.

Upon *de novo* review of the record, the Magistrate Judge's R&R is ADOPTED. Specifically, the Court finds as follows: that the defendant is competent to enter a plea, that he understands his constitutional rights, that he is aware of the consequences of entering a plea, and that there is an adequate factual basis for the plea. The Court further finds that the plea was entered knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily. Accordingly, the Defendant's plea of guilty is APPROVED.

Therefore, the Defendant is adjudged guilty of Count 2 in violation of 21 U.S.C. Section 844(a). The sentencing will be held on May 14, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated: March 25, 2014

  
**HONORABLE SARA LIOI**  
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**